

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this patent application, as previously amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 have been rejected as being unpatentable over either Japanese ('310) or Japanese ('570) in view of Wiener et al., Lynch et al., or Nis et al. and Falk et al. under 35 USC 103. Claims 1-3 and 5-26 remain active in this patent application.

In connection with the rejection of the noted claims based upon the noted prior art of record, it is reiterated to the Examiner that the present invention as currently claimed patentably defines over all of the art of record and particularly over either Japanese ('310) or Jap-

anese ('570) in view of Wiener et al., Lynch et al., or Nis et al. and Falk et al. More particularly, independent Claims 1,9,13,16, and 20 have been appropriately amended so as to set forth the fact that in accordance with the present invention, the tip head comprises three flame which together define a substantially complete circumferential flame array for substantially completely heating the entire circumferential extent of the member as clearly shown in the left side of **FIGURE 2** of the patent drawings. More particularly, or stated in other words, what the presently claimed invention has been capable of achieving is the heating of the entire circumferential extent of the member to be treated with only, three flame orifices. Obviously, as disclosed within Japanese ('310), as seen, for example, within **FIGURE 2**, numerous flame orifices 2, far more than only three, are utilized. Similarly, as can be appreciated from **FIGURES 1** and **2** of Japanese ('570), four flame nozzles are employed, whereas, for example, within **FIGURE 10**, many orifices are disclosed at 51. Similar multiple nozzles are also shown in **FIGURES 15** and **16**. Similar remarks also hold true for Wiener et al. wherein, as the examiner has noted in connection with **FIGURE 5**, multiple, that is, more than three, flames are utilized. Still yet further, Lynch et al., and Nis et al.

likewise disclose multiple flame jets and do not at all discuss the achievement of the circumferential heating of a central or axial member utilizing only three flame jets or orifices. Falk et al. has been cited by the examiner for other features of the invention and is submitted to not be particularly pertinent for the present discussion.

In addition, it is also noted that the noted independent claims recite the fact that the orifices are disposed at a predetermined angle with respect to a first plane within which they are disposed so as to effectively heat the member at a location which is disposed within a second plane axially spaced from the first plane. This is shown within the attached **NEW SHEET** of drawings illustrating new **FIGURE 5** which is effectively an enlarged partial view of **FIGURE 4** and showing the added angled flame orifices. No new matter has been introduced into the patent as such subject matter was present within the original patent disclosure. The submission of the new sheet of drawings is also respectfully submitted to overcome the objection of the examiner to the drawings. Upon approval of the examiner, and the indication

of allowance, a formal drawing will be submitted as well as amendments to the specification briefly describing new **FIGURE 5**.

It is respectfully submitted that the above features, taken together so as to achieve such heating of the entire circumferential extent of the member with only three angled flame orifices, are not in fact disclosed within any of the noted **PRIOR ART** of record, nor would such be obvious from the teachings of such **PRIOR ART** of record, and it is therefore respectfully submitted further that Claims 1,6, 9,13, and 20, as well as the remaining claims of the patent and this patent application, patentably define over such **PRIOR ART** of record.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of the claims, under the various grounds of rejection as noted above, should be withdrawn, and that the claims of this patent application are in

condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to
this effect is therefore now anticipated and awaited.

Respectfully Submitted,
SCHWARTZ & WEINRIEB

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steven W. Weinrieb', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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